

REMARKS

This Amendment is made to the Office Action dated October 27, 2010. Claims 1-5 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the presently claimed invention. Applicants have carefully reviewed the arguments presented in the Office Action and respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented below.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,383,205 to Samson et al. (the "Samson patent") in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,277,138 to Levinson et al. (the "Levinson patent"). Applicants note that claim 1 has been amended to include the recitation that the outer tubular member extends along the length of the filtering assembly. Applicants' presently claimed invention is directed to a novel structure **for mounting an entire filtering assembly** so that it can rotate along a shaft member such as a guide wire while having limited axial movement along the shaft member. The Samson patent neither discloses nor appreciates such a mounting structure. Rather, the particular structure disclosed in the Samson patent merely utilizes a short tubular member 286 as a structure for supporting a bushing 264 which is attached to the distal-most end of a cage assembly 262. FIG. 4C of the Samson patent is reproduced below. As can be seen in this drawing, the tubular member 286 is a short piece which

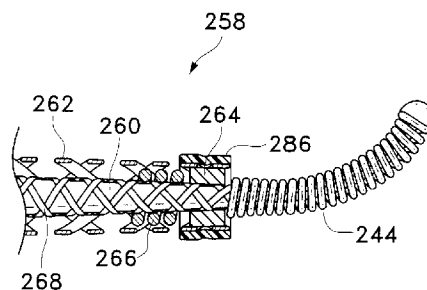


Fig. 4C

extends over the distal-most end on the cage assembly 262. The Sampson patent merely states at Column 8, lines 38-41 that this bushing 264 desirably forms a joint with this

outer tubular member at the distal-most end of the cage. The purpose of Applicants' presently claimed invention is not to form a joint at the end of the filtering assembly. Accordingly, the Samson patent fails to recognize the use of an outer tubular member with a shorter inner member for mounting the entire filtering assembly thereto. The Levinson patent fails to disclose the structure lacking in the Samson patent. Applicants thus respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the obviousness rejections raised against claims 1-5.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully urged that all of the present claims of the application are patentable and in a condition for allowance. The undersigned attorney can be reached at (310) 824-5555 to facilitate prosecution of this application, if necessary.

Applicants believe that no fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized, however, to charge any fees that may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Respectfully submitted,
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